

Message Text

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ORIGIN ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 EA-07 H-02 SP-02 L-03

OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 ABF-01 VO-03 INSE-00 DODE-00

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: ICEM EXPENDITURES: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES

REF: (A) STATE 36558; (B) GENEVA 1520; (C) STATE 50927;
(D) GENEVA 1692; (E) GENEVA 1880; (F) STATE 62005;
(G) GENEVA 2018; (H) STATE 65708; (I) STATE 76047;
(J) STATE 77753; (K) GENEVA 2631; (L) GENEVA 2769

1. DURING SENATE APPROPRIATION HEARINGS LAST WEEK ON
MIGRATION AND REFUGEE ASSISTANCE FOR 1977 SUB-COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN INOUE ASKED IF IT IS TRUE THAT USG CONTRIBUTIONS
TO SPECIAL PROGRAMS DO NOT ASSIST ICEM IN FINANCING ITS
INFRASTRUCTURE AND REGULAR PROGRAM BUDGET. THIS QUESTION
WAS ASKED NOTWITHSTANDING THE STATEMENT IN THE DEPARTMENT'S
BUDGET SUBMISSION THAT QUOTE THE UNITED STATES ANNUAL CON-
TRIBUTION TO THE REGULAR PROGRAM GOES TO PRESERVING ICEM
INFRASTRUCTURE . . . BY MAINTAINING THIS INFRASTRUCTURE,
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ICEM ON SHORT NOTICE, IS ABLE TO EXPAND ITS ACTIVITIES IN

TIMES OF CRISIS UNQUOTE. IN RESPONDING TO THIS QUESTION DEPARTMENT'S PRINCIPAL WITNESS WILSON STATED THAT WHEN THE USG REQUESTS ICEM TO UNDERTAKE SPECIAL ACTIVITIES, E.G. THE CURRENT INDOCHINESE REFUGEE PROGRAM, OUTSIDE ICEM'S REGULAR PROGRAM THE USG USUALLY AGREES TO REIMBURSE ICEM FOR EXTRA OR ADDITIONAL COSTS OF SUCH ACTIVITIES.

2. THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF TELEGRAMS BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT AND THE MISSION AND FROM ICEM TO THE DEPARTMENT REGARDING THE AMOUNT DUE ICEM FOR SUPPORT OF THE INDO-CHINESE REFUGEE PROGRAM, A MATTER WHICH RELATES DIRECTLY TO SENATOR INOUE'S QUESTION. RESOLVING THIS MATTER WITH ICEM HAS BEEN COMPLICATED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S DIRECT INVOLVEMENT IN A MATTER THAT NEEDS TO BE NEGOTIATED IN GENEVA REPEAT IN GENEVA BY THE MISSION AND ICEM. THE DEPARTMENT DOES NEED TO BE KEPT CURRENTLY ADVISED AS TO HOW THE PROPOSED FINAL SETTLEMENT IS REACHED AND HOW IT CAN BE CONSIDERED CONSISTENT WITH ICEM FUNDING OF SPECIAL PROGRAMS BY MEMBER GOVERNMENTS. ALSO, THE RESULT OF NEGOTIATIONS MUST BE SUBJECT TO FINAL APPROVAL OF THE DEPARTMENT GIVEN D/HA'S RESPONSIBILITY INSOFAR AS AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.

3. NEITHER THE DEPARTMENT NOR THE MISSION IS ENTIRELY BLAMELESS THAT NEGOTIATIONS RE ICEM SUPPORT OF INDOCHINESE REFUGEE PROGRAM SUPPORT HAS SOMEHOW BECOME AN ISSUE BETWEEN ICEM/GENEVA AND THE DEPARTMENT WITH THE MISSION'S PARTICIPATION BEING FAR TOO LIMITED. REFTEL (I) REQUESTED THE FOLLOWING ACTION OF THE MISSION: (A) DISCUSSION OF MESSAGE CONTENTS WITH ICEM/GENEVA (SEE PARAS. 1 AND 10) AND (B) SUBMISSION OF MISSION VIEWS RE COSTING ARRANGEMENT WITH ICEM INSOFAR AS INDOCHINESE REFUGEE PROGRAM PRELIMINARY REPEAT PRELIMINARY TO SUBMITTING PROPOSAL RE A CONTRIBUTION TO ICEM (SEE PARA. 7). BEFORE RESPONSE TO THIS CABLE WAS RECEIVED FROM THE MISSION, LOCAL ICEM REPRESENTATIVE RECEIVED A CABLE, FOR CARLIN, DIRECTLY FROM ICEM/GENEVA, CONTAINING COST FIGURES REFERRED TO IN PARA 7 OF STATE 76047. THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY GENEVA 2631 IN WHICH IT WAS STATED QUOTE ASSUME THAT HA HAS RECEIVED (CABLE TO CARLIN) AND NEEDS NO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FURTHER INTERVENTION BY MISSION. A PRIMARY PURPOSE OF THIS CABLE IS TO MAKE THE POINT THAT THE MISSION'S VIEWS ARE VERY MUCH DESIRED.

4. WITH THE ABOVE AS BACKGROUND, MISSION IMMEDIATE ACTION IS REQUESTED ON THE FOLLOWING, LISTED IN PRIORITY ORDER:

A. ADVISE BY IMMEDIATE CABLE ICEM POLICY REGARDING

BILLING MEMBER GOVERNMENTS FOR SPECIAL PROGRAMS. THIS STATEMENT NEEDS TO BE INSERTED THIS WEEK IN TRANSCRIPT OF LAST WEEK'S HEARINGS OF SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS. POLICY STATEMENT DRAFTED BY ICEM IS TO BE TRANSMITTED BY MISSION WITH MISSION CONCURRENCE.

B. RESOLVE AMOUNT OF ICEM OVERHEAD COSTS FOR INDO-CHINESE REFUGEE PROGRAM THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1976. THIS HAS BEEN HANGING FIRE FOR MONTHS AND FINAL DECISION NEEDS TO BE QUICKLY REACHED. MISSION CORRECTLY STATED REFTEL (G) ICEM OVERHEAD CHARGES CONSIDERED EXCESSIVE -- THEY MAY EVEN BE QUOTE TRIPLICATION UNQUOTE AS AS STATED MISSION MESSAGE. WHAT IS NOW OF CRITICAL IMPORTANCE IS FOR MISSION AND ICEM/GENEVA TO REACH AGREEMENT AS TO AMOUNT THAT IS CONSISTENT WITH ICEM SPECIAL PROGRAM FUNDING STATEMENT TO BE GIVEN SENATE.

C. DETERMINE FORMULA FOR REIMBURSING ICEM FOR INDO-CHINESE REFUGEE PROGRAM OVERHEAD COST POST APRIL 1. THIS WILL BE COMPLICATED BY FACT ICEM HAS RESPONDED TO PARA. 7 OF REFTEL (I) WITHOUT DEPARTMENT RECEIVING MISSION EVALUATION BEFORE TENTATIVE FORMULA WAS SHOWN ICEM. SEPTTEL WILL BE SENT TOMORROW REGARDING STAFF LEVELS SET FORTH IN ICEM/GENEVA CABLE TO CARLIN. ASSUME MISSION AGREES WITH D/HA REACTION THAT FORMULA FOR OVERHEAD REIMBURSEMENT, AS IT NOW STANDS, EXCEEDS WHAT ICEM CHARGES OTHER MEMBER GOVERNMENTS, AND CONSEQUENTLY PERCENTAGES NEED TO BE NEGOTIATED DOWNWARD BY MISSION.

D. QUESTION OF ICEM OVERHEAD CHARGES FOR PERIOD JANUARY 1 - MARCH 31, 1976 HAS NOT BEEN ADDRESSED SINCE IT WAS ASSUMED THIS WOULD FALL IN LINE ONCE AGREEMENT REACHED ON PRE-JANUARY 1 AND POST - MARCH 31 AMOUNTS. HOWEVER, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AGREED UPON CONTRIBUTION FOR THIS PERIOD NEEDS TO BE ARRIVED AT AS SOON AS ABOVE MATTERS IDENTIFIED PRECEEDING 3 PARAGRAPHS ARE RESOLVED.

5. D/HA WILL TAKE NO ACTION ICEM RESPONSES REFERRED TO REFTELS (K) AND (L) SINCE THIS WOULD USURP MISSION RESPONSIBILITY. KISSINGER

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